

June 16, 1945

Mr. Joseph M. Patterson
Texas Petroleum Company
Apt. 267
Caracas, Venezuela

Dear Mr. Patterson:

I suppose you remember me. I am the man from the Bureau with the Halymentites. Well, to make a long story short, there is a good chance that I shall leave the Bureau of Economic Geology in the next few months. One of the major oil companies is thinking of offering me a place in Bogota, Columbia. But, of course, Bogota is only a spot on the map to me. I thought perhaps you know something about it or could find out from your friends.

How expensive is it nowadays to live there? Can one find a decent house with the necessary fixtures? You know I have three daughters: 13, 11, and 9 years old. Are there schools and high schools?

We five live here very comfortably in a very nice house with two baths and three bedrooms and all other comforts of civilized life. It would hardly pay to leave here if one could not live well in Bogota, for I am wanted here. Of course, prices have gone up here in the USA too, very considerably so. What used to be a modest but sufficient income is now a rather tight fit that does not allow much leeway. Having a large family, for modern concepts, has its difficulties and drawbacks.

I thought you might not mind to write me about living conditions in Bogota, if you can find out about them. I would appreciate your information greatly because it would enable me to make up my mind.

Give my regards to Bill Humphrey and family.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:LS